REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants cancelled claims 7-14 and added new claims 15-16.

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U. S. C. 103(a) as being obvious over Hammond (U.S. Patent No. 4,347,689), in view of Moldovan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,566,224). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection to claims 1-6 because there is no motivation to combine the references to provide a drive connected to a rotational spindle that varies a rotation rate of the rotational spindle in response to movement of the contact member, as recited in claim 1.

The Hammond reference discloses an apparatus burnishing the oxide coated surface 12 of the floppy disk 10. Irregularities formed on the oxide coated surface 12 of a floppy disk 10 are leveled with a burnishing tape 38, which is in contact with the floppy disk 10.

The Moldovan et al. reference discloses a lapping apparatus to hold a part 64 in lapping engagement with the lapping surface 22 of the disk 20, wherein the disk 20 serves as a lap. The Moldovan et al. reference discloses a lapping apparatus which is different from that of the Hammond reference. Because these references relate to different types of apparatuses, Applicants believe that there is no motivation to combine the cited references as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection to claims 1-6 is respectfully requested.

New claim 15 is added and recites an apparatus designed to texture a substrate of a recording medium, which comprises: a rotational spindle supported for rotation in an attitude perpendicular to a predetermined datum plane, the rotational spindle receiving the substrate; a contact member supported for movement in a radial direction of the rotational spindle along the datum plane; and a drive connected to the rotational spindle so as to vary a rotation rate of the rotational spindle in response to movement of the contact member. New claim 16 is dependent from new claim 15, and further recites the feature of the substrate having no magnetic film thereon.

Applicants believe that new claims 15-16 are allowable because the cited references do not disclose or suggest an apparatus designed to texture a substrate of a recording medium. The texturing of the present invention is provided on the surface of a substrate prior to forming a magnetic film on the substrate. This is believed to distinguish the invention from the Hammond reference wherein burnishing is affected on the floppy disk 10 which has a magnetic film formed thereon. For these reasons, allowance of new claims 15-16 is earnestly solicited.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the claimed invention. The Examiner should call Applicants attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By Joseph P. Fox Reg. No. 41,760

June 5, 2003 300 South Wacker Drive **Suite 2500**

Chicago, Illinois 60606

Tel: (312) 360-0080 Fax: (312) 360-9315 Customer No.: 24978

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